

Floor Statement of Rep. Henry A. Waxman
Safe Climate Caucus
June 3, 2013

Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a member of the Safe Climate Caucus to urge the House to act on climate change.

Last month, scientists recorded atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide at more than 400 parts per million.

The long term consequences of this development are going to get worse in the future, but we are already seeing the immediate impacts today.

The Philadelphia Inquirer has recently reported on the sea level rising along the Delaware Bay and the spring season coming earlier to the Philadelphia region. I would like, Mr. Speaker, ask that these two articles be put into the Congressional Record.

And just last month, the National Resources Defense Council released a report on the costs of climate change showing that the federal government spent \$100 billion on disaster relief last year – that's more than we spent on education, transportation, or even nondiscretionary spending on health.

And yet not only does the Republican majority in the House refuse to address climate change, they are actively pursuing legislation that is sure to make things worse.

We must address this problem now.